

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U. S. Application No. 10/724,604

REMARKS

Claims 5-7 and 10 are all the claims pending in the application, claim 14 having been canceled as indicated herein. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 5-7 are allowed. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 10 is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Froschermeier (U.S. Patent No. 5,525,992) in view of Tanaka (U.S. Patent No. 6,011,483), and further in view of Burgess (U.S. Patent No. 6,031,465). Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over O'Tool (U.S. Patent No. 6,130,602) in view of Matsuszewski.

§112, second paragraph, Rejection - Claim 10

Claim 10 is amended, as indicated herein, and Applicant believes that the Examiner's rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is obviated.

§103(a) Rejections (Froschermeir/Tanaka/Burgess) - Claim 10

See Amendment dated June 30, 2006.

§103(a) Rejections (O'Tool / Matsuszewski) - Claim 14

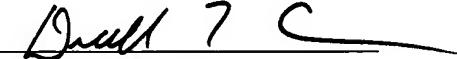
See Amendment dated June 30, 2006.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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